



Lake County Coastal Plan Committee Minutes

August 24, 2011

The Lake County Coastal Plan Committee hereby finds and determines that all formal actions were taken in an open meeting of the Lake County Coastal Plan Committee and that all the deliberations of the Planning Commission and its committees, if any, which resulted in formal actions, were taken in meetings open to the public in full compliance with applicable legal requirements, including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

Chairman Boyd called the meeting to order at 6:09 p.m. at the Lake Metropark Environmental Learning Center in Concord Township. The Chair then gave the floor to the Lake Metroparks hosts.

Those present were then welcomed to the Environmental Learning Center by Lake Metroparks' Ms. Ellen Foley Kessler, Park Commissioner Board and Mr. Stephen Madewell, Executive Director with the history of the facility and a short tour. The facility sits on 250 acres of land, was a stop on the Underground Railroad, and was previously owned and used as a Methodist camp (Camp Kline). The updated facility is now geothermol, has an outstanding science laboratory, meeting rooms, and observatory. It offers hands-on experience for school children 12 and under.

PRESENTATION

Dr. Lorry Wagner, President of Lake Erie Energy Development Corporation (LEEDCo) gave a presentation on "Offshore wind power for Ohio's economy". A few points of interest were:

- The first wind turbine was developed by Charles Brush in Euclid. Although we did not pursue it, Europe did. This decision provided them with 40,000 new jobs in 2010.
- Ohio coal plants provide 45% of Ohio's electricity, but this will eventually decrease.
- The proposed Cleveland project will have wind turbines seven miles offshore into Lake Erie.
- \$150 million is needed for a demonstration project.
- They are looking for support for the Cleveland project.
- There is more wind power from turbines in the water than on land.
- Ten times the number of new jobs would be produced from offshore turbines than on land.
- Some American parts are used in their production, but no one manufactures the turbines in the States.
- Alternative Energies:
 - Nuclear power has not grown. This is probably the cheapest source of kilowatt hours at \$.05-.06 from those already built, but a new power plant is more expensive than offshore turbines.
 - Natural gas will probably expand. Ohio has a good supply, but the supply is not infinite.
 - Solar power is more expensive.
 - Wind power is a clean and renewable source of alternative power and, although it is not as inexpensive as nuclear power, it will provide more jobs.

ATTENDANCE

The following members were present: Messrs. Allen, Bodnar, Buescher, Bruckman, Cain, Cicero, Gilmer, Reichard, Scruggs, Stephenson, Urbanski, Webster, Welch, Zeitz and Mmes. Brennan, Foley Kessler, and Neale. Staff present: Mr. Boyd, Mmes. Myers and Truesdell. Visitors present: Dr. Lorry Wagner (LEEDCo), Mr. John Loftus (L.C. Port Authority), and Mr. Stephen Madewell, Lake Metroparks.

MINUTES

Ms. Neale moved to approve the February 23, 2011 minutes as submitted. Mr. Bodnar seconded the motion.

All voted "Aye".

OLD BUSINESS

Madison Township Parks

Mr. Boyd stated the engineers finished the final plan for Madison Township Park in August, 2011 and they are still anticipating construction of the offshore breakwaters this year. They are keeping an eye on what is happening in North Perry Village and on the extent they will be mandated to monitor the park from a sand bypass perspective.

Mr. Loftus said they are moving forward at Stanton Park with the selection of a consultant who can do geotechnical work for offshore protection and shoreline stabilization. The County Engineer is leading that project. They are hopeful to have a consultant selected this Fall and be able to go forward with the technical work.

Perry Township Park - Jason Boyd

Perry Township used some of their 2009 Capital Bill dollars to pull back and re-grade the slope at Perry Township Park. Mr. Boyd has seen prints of engineering for offshore barriers similar to Madison Township Park's behind the community center. Mr. Welch did not have anything to add.

NEW BUSINESS

Community Updates:

N. Perry Village – Ed Klco and Mark Cicero: Mayor Klco said they are still dealing with the sand issue. They have met with ODNR several times and have a good dialogue going with them. Of concern is the Corps nearshore release of 80,000 to 100,000 yards of dredging sand from the Grand River at Fairport Harbor which moves down to their property. Both Mayor Klco and Mr. Cicero agree that the usage of their park has been outstanding since the development has been completed.

Mr. Bodnar wanted to let N. Perry know that they had written a letter to the Corps requesting holding the activity of the nearshore dumping of the Grand River dredging because that site is in Painesville Township and because of the sand problems N. Perry has experienced. A letter was also sent to the Army Corps in support of N. Perry Village on this attempt. He said in venues such as this, communities can work together and support each others efforts.

Mayor Klco said the first year, North Perry moved about 10-12,000 yards of sand. This Spring they hardly moved any at all but the Corps did not dredge Fairport last year. Since they will be dredging Fairport this year, they are expecting the amount to be high again next Spring. They had spent approximately \$500,000 in dredging and monitoring. North Perry Village is hoping to receive information from the Corps soon about the Fairport harbor dredge and hope they will place the sand on the shoreline (beach) instead of nearshore.

Eastlake Port Authority – Mark Cain: The North Island procurement is in production. A letter was sent a couple weeks ago to a number of small individual land owners to see if they were interested in selling their property and the advantage of doing so. The Port Authority had heard from three parcel owners so far.

Mr. Boyd added that they are also looking to protect Anchor Island's nose with a design to stop erosion.

Lakeline Village – Deborah Neale: The Community would like to host a meeting next summer at the Lakeline facility to see its improvements. Their community hall should be completed this year. Because of the low water, she reported they had about ten feet of beach area this summer.

Mentor Harbor Yacht Club – Chuck Stephenson: There are two or three small breaches on the steel wall and they will need to find about \$200,000 for corrective measures.

Mentor-on-the-Lake – Al Buescher: There is no coastal activity at this time. There is a private beach for sale.

Mr. Boyd brought attention to articles in the handout about the new private owner of the west breakwater lighthouse purchased at \$77,000. No one in attendance had heard any more information about the potential owner.

Ward Creek – Bob Zeitz: He heard there is someone in New York producing salt water from fracking wells to be used on roads for snow.

Fairport Harbor – Mr. Boyd: The Planning Commission is consulting with the Fairport Planning Commission and Council in working on new zoning for the riverfront. It is more of a mixed-use zoning of office, entertainment, and housing. This hasn't been presented to Council for approval yet.

Lake Metroparks – Ellen Foley Kessler: A new park called Gulley Brook just opened in Willoughby Hills and Willoughby. It is land from the 1800's that is untouched. Yesterday, every single parking spot in the place was taken.

Lake County Port Authority – John Loftus: He wanted to thank everyone for the support of their efforts. They would like to get the new Director of ODNR up to Lake County and explain what the Coastal Plan is all about before they make an ask in the next Capital Bill. There is supposed to be one coming up this year. They would like to get this Director to understand what they are trying to achieve and to see if they can coordinate with the Department for a decent amount of money that would have an impact on one of the Coastal Development Plan projects. He said it was good to hear that Mr. Bodnar and Painesville Twp. cooperated with everyone because, if the Director says we are going to put our money at Mentor or Perry Twp. Park, he would hope that everyone would be willing to step up and say that they would like to see that happen. They would like to see a couple of big successes here and be able to move forward. They would like to bring the Director up to date and cooperate with him soon.

North Perry Village – Harry Allen, Jr.: Concerning the North Perry Village sand issues, he would like to see the regulatory agencies focus on scientific remedies of the issues that have been brought forth. The situation at North Perry has a technical remedy. He urged all the members as community leaders and part of this master plan to help take it forward and get some semblance of reason and sanity back into this.

Mr. Boyd used Madison Township as an example of the unreasonableness of the large sand monitoring area mandated by the Corps. They are trying to work with them, but are not getting concrete answers back from the regulatory agencies, and those that have been received are inconsistent. After meeting with the Corps, there appeared to be a huge disconnect between their vision and reality and it seems they have become one of the biggest roadblocks to further implementation of the plan. Right now, Madison Township is trying to get the monitoring plan to their liking so they will sign off on the project. Also, keep in mind that everyone will be facing the same problems unless we can get our politicians' attention.

Mr. Allen urged members to get to their constituents both in the City of Mentor and the Mentor Harbor Yacht Club to consider a partnership with ODNR, especially now that we have

submersed land ownership. Together, they would have a much better chance of getting their attention.

Mr. Boyd planned to get some things ready for the quarterly meeting in November: a looking-back document, that shows what this vision has accomplished, the history of the processes the Committee went through to get here, the economic expenses of that end, and also what the communities are looking to do in the future. Also, Willoughby City is in the final stages of their lakefront planning process.

Mr. Buescher commented on Mr. Allen's statement about contacting Congressmen LaTourette or Brown, and asked if there was anything this Committee could do as a united effort to get their attention, such as a letter. Mr. Allen said he had not directly spoken to Mr. LaTourette to voice his opinion or this body's collective opinion.

Mr. Klco said North Perry Village needed help. They feel all their conversations have fallen on deaf ears because the Corps and ODNR do not seem to work or talk with each other. They had followed everything that they said they were going to do in their project submission to the "t". The plan was exact, they had the regulatory agencies permission, and now the agencies were telling them they planned something wrong. The agencies had looked over the Village's efforts before construction started.

Mr. Allen felt the Corps needed a new charter on lakefront development. We need to communicate that there is a remedy to these problems, it is manageable, it is predictable and we can plan for it.

Mr. Buescher said any community coastal project could be affected by this. This should be of concern to this body. Even a letter to Mr. LaTourette's office could help. Mr. Klco said they were not getting any help or support from his office right now.

Mr. Boyd added that last Spring the Madison Township Trustees were considering their potential financial responsible to tear an investment out and if they wanted to go ahead and spend \$300,000 on planned barriers and a new boat launch. They barely have the funds to build the park. What is happening at N. Perry Village is already trickling down to other communities who do not have the wherewithal to undo their efforts.

Mr. Loftus said a strategy should be set to address this problem. It is not a technical issue or a financial issue. Mr. Boyd and Mr. Loftus will work on a strategy of future action for this Committee.

NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 23 or 30, 2011. Date and location to be determined because of the holiday.

ADJOURNMENT:

Ms. Foley Kessler moved to adjourn the August 24, 2011 meeting at 7:45p.m. Mr. Bodnar seconded the motion.

All voted "Aye".